

guns are going forward in an unceasing stream, while batches of prisoners in lots of 200 or 300 are moving in the opposite direction.

These prisoners are reported to be a much mixed lot, comprising all sorts from veterans of several campaigns in several countries to lads apparently of 14 or 15, frightened almost to death and crying bitterly.

There is a general disposition here to accept the preliminary announcement from American headquarters that the offensive is to be of limited scope and to await further developments before speculating much as to the ultimate objectives. The immediate objectives, all of which were attained far ahead of the time set, are regarded as enough for the moment.

Aside from the speed shown by the Americans in their drive against positions, many of which were regarded as of extraordinary strength, the most surprising feature of the operation was the slight resistance encountered at nearly all parts of the line. According to one account only one German counter attack was delivered in the first half of the operation.

CHIEF POST IS TAKEN AT POINT OF BAYONET

German Resistance Quickly Broken by Yankee Charge.

PARIS, Sept. 13.—About a hundred of the first American wounded arriving in the rear from the St. Mihiel sector gave the impression that the battle was a great victory and full of promise for the future. The American troops exhibited splendid dash and courage in the assault, moving to the assault with flags flying and singing the "Marcelle."

One of the principal points of support in the enemy's defense was taken at the point of the bayonet. Despite fierce resistance the Germans were completely overthrown and suffered exceptionally heavy losses.

The American units cooperated splendidly with the French. One American officer who was wounded during the hottest part of the battle relates that a small French detachment found itself in difficulties in a wood full of machine guns.

Without waiting for orders the Americans advanced spontaneously to turn the position, and reaching the rear of the wood precipitated themselves on the enemy and slaughtered the runners on their weapons.

According to *La Liberté*, at the capture of a certain town the first officer to enter at the head of his troops was Capt. Michel Clemenceau, son of the late Premier. This town was stubbornly defended by two German divisions, great numbers of whom remained as prisoners in addition to the large numbers killed.

TANKS PLAYED BIG PART IN THE DRIVE

Commander of One Captures an Enemy Battery.

By the Associated Press. WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN LORRAINE, Sept. 13.—Prisoners continue to come in from the front. One corps headquarters was choked with Germans this morning, including a Major of the 419th Regiment, who had been captured with his entire staff. His checks were still wet with tears shed over his capture.

Eleven enemy ammunition dumps are known to have been blown up by the artillery of one corps alone.

The line which the tanks in the beginning of the offensive is illustrated by the execution of one machine, in command of Sergeant Graham. This tank took the lead in the assault and captured a battery of German 75s, seventeen heavy machine guns, five light machine guns and seven heavy prisoners. When the tank went into action Sergeant Graham crawled to the top of the turret and directed the operations from there. Another tank unaided took thirty prisoners.

Only Two Tanks Destroyed.

The losses to the tanks have been very small. Only two of the machines have been destroyed entirely and in the corps the Americans have suffered only four casualties. Not a man has been killed in connection with the operation of the tanks.

American aviators have been taking the most active possible part in the present fighting, and, notwithstanding the bad weather, have been flying over German territory without opposition. There seemingly can be no more talk of German balloons being shot down. One daring flier swooped low to attack a retreating battery and shot one of the officers dead. Another officer was driven into a dugout, where he was captured.

Prisoners From Seven Divisions.

The prisoners taken by the Americans have come from seven German divisions, among them men from the Landwehr and Landsturm. The Austro-Hungarians made prisoner came from the 192d, 20th, Seventy-seventh, 25th and 30th Regiments.

The prisoners asserted that the casualties resulting from the American drive were very heavy. Among the captives were numerous officers, who freely criticized the High Command for what they termed bad judgment.

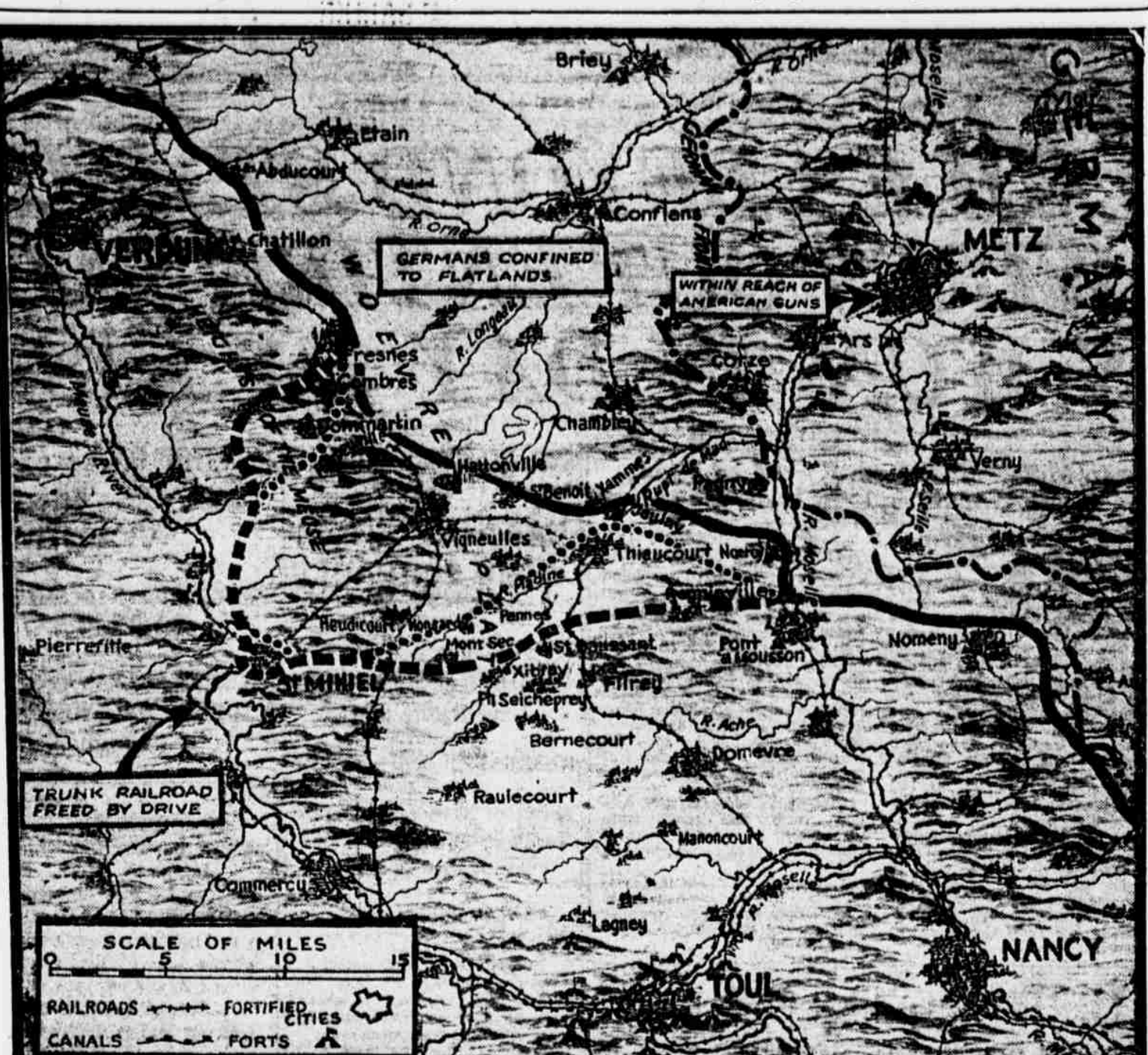
Of the prisoners taken, 2,500 were captured in one district near Mont Sec by an American division. Among the prisoners was Major Schmiesig, a Count. He and his staff had their baggage packed and were waiting to be captured. In a majority of cases the prisoners put up comparatively little resistance before surrendering. In many instances the detachments which had escaped the barrage in their trenches and dugouts made a perfunctory resistance with their machine guns, and then threw up their hands.

Lured by Supposed Retreat.

A detachment of about 200 Germans at the foot of a little hill were ordered to charge the Americans who were advancing down the slope. The Americans were ordered by their Captain to retreat. They did, but only over the brow of the hill. Here, lying flat, they awaited the rush of the Germans and received their assaults with the bayonet. It was soon over. All the Germans were either killed or captured.

All the evidence at hand tends to confirm the belief that the Germans were altogether unprepared to resist such a force as Gen. Pershing sent against them. One division on a certain sector sent out a call for reinforcements. The only response to this appeal was a reply to hold the sector at all costs. At Vigneulles, a little town that sits in the northern end of the valley that was the northern entrance to the St. Mihiel salient, was entered by the Americans last night. The first to enter the town was only a small patrol. This was supported by a large force that moved down the ridge along the northern edge of the forest, and in a few hours the trap was

The Great St. Mihiel Salient, Flattened Out in a Day by Pershing's Army



A LITTLE more than a day sufficed to eliminate the St. Mihiel salient, which had withstood all efforts to reduce it for exactly four years; it disappeared under the rush of American and French troops on the fourth anniversary of its establishment by the Germans.

The Germans have been thrown out of all the hilly country known as the Heights of the Meuse and now are confined to the flat lands, mostly open country, of the Woëvre Plain, where they are at a tremendous disadvantage as regards military position. It is hardly likely that they will remain long in such exposed positions.

The American front now, in a general way, is about eight miles from the points where it started on the southern side of the salient and somewhat less on the western side.

On the map the heavy black line is the present battle front, the light dotted line below it shows the gains made in the first part of the drive and the heavy dotted line the position of the opposing forces when the battle commenced.

OFFICIAL REPORTS OF THE BATTLES.

LONDON, Sept. 13.—The official statements of to-day on the fighting on the western front.

BRITISH (NIGHT).—In the Verdun and Jeancourt sector, northwest of St. Quentin, our troops have gained ground in contact with the enemy's advanced detachments and have taken prisoners.

GERMAN (DAY).—In the neighborhood of the coast and northeast of Bixchoote we carried out successfully minor operations. Between Ypres and Arras our enemy retook some advances. British partial attacks south and west of Fleurbaix and a strong British advance northwest of Halluach were repulsed.

GERMAN (NIGHT).—The day was quiet on the fighting fronts. Between the Meuse and the Moselle, the enemy thus far has not renewed his attacks.

GERMAN (DAY).—In the neighborhood of the coast and northeast of Bixchoote we carried out successfully minor operations. Between Ypres and Arras our enemy retook some advances. British partial attacks south and west of Fleurbaix and a strong British advance northwest of Halluach were repulsed.

BRITISH (DAY).—Yesterday English troops gained possession of Hivon Wood, driving the enemy from the localities in which he offered resistance.

Further north our line has been advanced to the east of the village of Jeancourt, which is in our hands.

In the course of the evening strong hostile forces, assisted by a squadron of low flying airplanes, attacked our new position at Hivon Wood and were repulsed with great loss.

Opposite Moeuvres hostile infantry assembled for a counter attack was observed and subjected to a heavy and accurate fire by our artillery. The attack which developed subsequently was completely unsuccessful, the few survivors of the attack were taken prisoners.

Progress was made by our troops during the night to the west of Auchy-lez-Loos.

FRENCH (DAY).—West of St. Quentin French troops have occupied the village of Savy. In the Champagne strong German raids were repulsed. The region of Verdun was made a number of raids and returned with prisoners. The American attack in the region of St. Mihiel is continuing with success.

operation which would have given him much needed effective positions.

"But the German staff was not content with the Beaumont-Noyant line, knowing how difficult evacuation of the St. Mihiel salient would be in case of an attack on our part. He multiplied his lines of resistance parallel to the Woëvre front, that is to say, to the front, Apremont-Bois de Preire. There is hardly any open ground between this front and the Beaumont-Noyant line. The main artery of the whole pocket is the railroad constructed by the Germans from Chambley to Vigneulles, with the most important branch to the west of Dampvilloux Wood.

"About the first of September a detachment of the German army commanded by Gen. Fuchs and belonging to the Von Gallwitz group, held the line from the Etain-Verdun road to the Bois de Preire. It is possible that Fuchs has been reinforced by the last few days. Von Hindenburg's recent visit to Lorraine seemed to show that the Germans were beginning to get uneasy about that side.

"However that may be, here is Ludendorff once more stopped from getting to work on the reconstitution of his army. He has been reinforced by the last few days. Von Hindenburg's recent visit to Lorraine seemed to show that the Germans were beginning to get uneasy about that side.

"We even believed in the spring of 1917 that the enemy was about to abandon the St. Mihiel salient at the same time as the Lassigny one. They did not because they desired, first, to contain Verdun from the east; second, to cut at St. Mihiel the Commercy-Verdun railroad, obliging us to avoid the Commercy station and make a detour by Condorcourt to communicate with Nancy; third, to keep the Briey salient, which was the key to the Meuse valley. The first of these was only a small patrol. This was supported by a large force that moved down the ridge along the northern edge of the forest, and in a few hours the trap was

PERSHING REPORTS COMPLETE VICTORY

13,300 Prisoners, Including Entire Division, Captured in St. Mihiel Drive.

RAILROAD LINE INTACT

American Attack Completely Surprises Enemy—Greater Drive Expected.

Special Despatch to The Sun.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 13.—Gen. Pershing has cut through the St. Mihiel salient on a line twelve miles back of the apex, has bagged 13,300 prisoners, including a whole German division, and is rapidly narrowing the distance between the American forces and the German frontier.

The Americans, Gen. Pershing's report to-night shows, attacking from both sides of the salient, have forced their way through nearly on a straight line, a feat which will stand out in the history of the war. The famous piecemeal system, as shown by to-night's report, has this time been applied with complete success, resulting in the absolute demolition of the St. Mihiel salient and the surrounding territory and the capture of many of the enemy forces contained therein.

The battle line runs from east to west, taking in the villages of Vigneulles, Thiaucourt, Xammes, St. Benoit, Hattenville, Thillot and Heubeville.

Whole Salient Captured. Gen. Pershing was able to report to the War Department to-night the capture of the whole salient, a fact which caused elation to pervade all circles of the General Staff, inasmuch as it marked a complete success for the American offensive, begun yesterday morning under the eyes of Secretary Baker himself and under the direct command of Gen. Pershing.

Early reports this afternoon that the Americans had actually reached the town of Pargny on the Moselle River, which is on the German frontier, were not borne out by the evening report. However, the advance of Gen. Pershing's forces on the eastern flank already presaged the possibility of the American offensive assuming the character of a general flanking movement, such as has been anticipated, with Metz as its objective.

The point now which interests General Staff officers particularly is whether the Americans will press on in their drive and attempt to invade German territory and try to strike at Metz or whether Gen. Pershing will rest on his laurels for the time being and permit the effect of the American onslaught to be exploited elsewhere on the battle front. The advantage which the allied and American forces will now seek to capitalize from the American drive will depend of course on the judgment of Marshal Foch.

The prevailing opinion in military circles here is that the attack on the St. Mihiel salient was primarily designed to reduce this menacing salient to a mere appendage of the general plan of battle which the French, British and Americans are conducting under the directing genius of Marshal Foch. The converging American attacks and the French attack on the salient are regarded here by some as more in the nature of a local operation, but it is now pointed out the results of this so-called local operation may have paved the way for a drive of far greater scope.

Not All Forces Used.

In support of this belief it is emphasized here that Gen. Pershing's marked and speedy success has undoubtedly been achieved by a relatively small portion of the American field army. The attack on a twelve mile front which brought the collapse of the German defenses before the American onslaught on the eastern flank of the salient could not have involved more than a few of Pershing's divisions.

As the field army contains from twenty to thirty divisions, this shows that the bulk of Pershing's army was held in reserve and did not need to be called upon to make the decision certain and complete. But this great reserve striking force is understood to be ready to drive forward whenever the time is considered opportune, so the question naturally arises as to whether conditions revealed by the local operation in the St. Mihiel salient make the time appear ripe.

The position of the Americans is regarded as favorable for a continuation of the onslaught on a greatly magnified scale provided other factors are favorable.

METZ INTENSIVELY BOMBED BY FLIERS

German Railroads Also Are Badly Damaged.

LONDON, Sept. 13.—While the American First Army was pressing forward through the St. Mihiel salient allied aviators were intensively bombing the German railroads around Metz and Courcelles, according to a communication issued to-night by the British Air Ministry. The statement says:

On the night of September 12-13, in conjunction with the attack of the American First Army, the railways at Metz and Courcelles (in the eastern outskirts of Metz) were heavily bombed by us with good results. The Metz station, searchlights and railroads were attacked with machine gun fire.

On the 13th inst. in favorable weather, operations were continued against the Metz station and other railway junctions and enemy transport on the battle front. Nearly eight and a half tons of bombs were dropped, and good results were observed.

One hostile machine was destroyed. Two of our machines are missing.

40 KILLED IN TRAIN WRECK.

Many Injured When Embankment Collapses Near Amsterdam.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

AMSTERDAM, Sept. 13.—Forty persons were killed and between 100 and 150 others injured today in a railway accident near Weesp, eight miles south-east of Amsterdam. An embankment collapsed, owing to the recent rains, and the entire train fell down the steep side.

SLAV MASSES FOIL GERMAN TRADE PLOT

Ragged and Hungry. People Refuse to Allow Goods to Leave Russia.

SOVIET PACT WORTHLESS

Workmen Halt Trains Bearing Goods—Laborers Will Not Load Ships.

By the Associated Press.

STOCKHOLM, Sept. 12 (delayed).—German despatches received in Sweden speak of the commercial agreement between Germany and Soviet Russia in the same general terms as those employed by the Bolshevik press. These despatches maintain the same degree of secrecy concerning the details as that which M. Joffe, the Bolshevik Ambassador, preserved when he made his flying trip from Berlin to Moscow to complete the agreement.

The masses in Russia were displaced by the arrangement, because they knew it contemplated the sale of goods as badly needed by the Russians, and especially the transfer to Germany of the fabrics which the Soviet Government had confiscated in great quantities in Moscow and Petrograd.

Germany Disappointed.

The Germans also are apparently disappointed by the agreement, because their efforts to ship goods have been so far from successful, and they believe they will have the same trouble in the case that also encountered in the Ukraine. In other words, they seem to feel that the Bolsheviks do not expect to abide by their treaty.

Even before Maria Spiridonova made her exposure concerning the German plans to deprive Russia of the cloth, leather and food it needs so badly the Russian laborers and railway men were effectively checking large shipments of goods to Germany. In Petrograd the dock laborers refused to load ships with goods that were billed for Sweden but clearly intended for the Germans. Trains carrying goods to the Baltic were refused to haul them to Pskov.

Less than a month ago Bolshevik troops at Orsha rioted because a trainload of cloth was about to pass across the German line, asserting that they would advertise the fact throughout Russia if the Germans persisted in taking away Russian fabrics.

Situation Seizes Tensions.

The situation became so grave that the Germans abandoned their plan to ship the fabrics. Small shipments may slip through, but the large consignments escape the laborers with difficulty and the circumstances so widely discussed in meetings that even the close press censorship does not prevent wide publicity.

For some time the Bolshevik officials deflected shipments to Germany on the ground that the foodstuffs and cloth were for Russian prisoners, but the returned prisoners told such terrible stories of their privations that the Russians refused to accept the explanation, which was denounced as a pretext of corrupt officials charged with passing goods for a consideration.

Millions of yards of cloth are locked in the Moscow and Petrograd storehouses, closely watched by agitators, and the Soviet Government risks its existence if it allows the German ships to ship the goods at a time when the masses are clothed in rags and are facing the approach of winter thus and without bread and fuel.

Gold Payment Is Plot.

The Russian public is in the dark as to the gold payment the Soviets agreed to make to Germany. The rumored amount varies from 5,000,000,000 to 10,000,000,000 rubles. The whereabouts of the Russian gold reserve is a mystery, and many bankers doubt whether any considerable amount remains to the Soviet Government. The State itself has not made a complete report since the Bolsheviks seized the Government and the statements of the Minister of Finance made so far are described by Tassian bankers as a list of liabilities on one side of the sheet and promises on the other.

No authoritative statement is available as to the actual amount of money in circulation, but the sum is probably not less than 30,000,000,000 rubles.

When the Bolsheviks evacuated Petrograd last February a train was sent to Nizhny-Novgorod carrying various articles of the State Bank and money, the whole being said to amount to 75,000,000 rubles. The Bolsheviks boasted that this was the richest train on record. These securities undoubtedly have been scattered widely because of the anarchy that has reigned in Nizhny-Novgorod, and the value of many of the securities is probably doubtful because of the absolute industrial paralysis of the country.

U. S. SERVICE CROSS FOR 17.

Gen. Pershing Makes Posthumous Awards to 15 Heroes.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 13.—Award of the Distinguished Service Cross to seventeen officers and men for gallantry in action was reported to-day to the War Department by Gen. Pershing. Fifteen of the awards were made posthumously. Twenty men in the latter list either were killed in action or died of wounds, while three met death in attempting to rescue their commanding officer. The list follows:

MCKENNA, JAMES A., Jr., Major, 125th Infantry, 1st Division, killed in action, Sept. 12, 1918.

HEYLER, WILLIAM, First Lieutenant, 1st Division, killed in action, Sept. 12, 1918.

GREFFIN, HENRY Q., Second Lieutenant, 1st Division, killed in action, Sept. 12, 1918.

COATER, JAMES A., Second Lieutenant, 1st Division, killed in action, Sept. 12, 1918.

WILSON, EARL W., Sergeant, Chicago, killed in action, Sept. 12, 1918.

ROCHESPAUGH, JAMES A., Sergeant, killed in action, Sept. 12, 1918.

HALFMAN, ANTHONY N., Sergeant, killed in action, Sept. 12, 1918.

MINTELL, PAUL D., Sergeant, Montclair, N. J., killed in action, Sept. 12, 1918.

GUTHRIE, ELMER C., Corporal, Fond du Lac, Wis., killed in action, Sept. 12, 1918.

DASCH, CARL W., private, Wisner, Wis., killed in action, Sept. 12, 1918.

KANE, CHARLES J., private, Philadelphia, killed in action, Sept. 12, 1918.

LEITER, ALONZO, private, Houston, Texas, killed in action, Sept. 12, 1918.

CALLIOTT, GROVER W., private, Morris, Ill., killed in action, Sept. 12, 1918.

SMITH, ROY H., German-born, Pa., killed in action, Sept. 12, 1918.

THOMAS, EVERETT, hunter, Paris, Ill., killed in action, Sept. 12, 1918.

Alvin and Dasch are the dying men who received crosses.

Stern Brothers

West 42nd Street Between 5th and 6th Avenues West 43rd Street

Have ready for immediate delivery

WIDELOOM

CHENILLE CARPETING

A heavy seamless wool-back floor covering in widths up to 18 feet. Shades of taupe, blue, grey, mulberry, rose and tete de negre,

At \$10.75 Sq. Yd.

Inspection and price comparison invited.

BAKER IN ST. MIHIEL SOON AFTER CAPTURE

Germans Carried Off All Men of Military Age.

By the Associated Press.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN LORRAINE, Sept. 13.—Newton D. Baker, American Secretary of War, accompanied by Gen. Pershing and other officials, visited St. Mihiel a few hours after its capture. Residents of the town so long

AMERICAN VICTORY AROUSES LONDON

Shatters German Lies, Says "Times."

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun and Public Ledger.

LONDON, Sept. 14.—Great enthusiasm has been caused here by the success of the American drive against the St. Mihiel salient, and practically all the

newspapers are printing highly laudatory comments.

The *Daily Mail* says: "America has made good. The more of the new army is worthy of the traditions inherited from Grant and Lee. We congratulate President Wilson and Gen. Pershing."

The *Times* in an editorial article says: "The American drive against the St. Mihiel salient is a masterpiece of military strategy. It is a blow to the German war effort which will be felt for many years to come."

The *Pall Mall Gazette* in an editorial yesterday said: "The entry into the war of the new American army under an American General has been a powerful factor in the success of the American drive against the St. Mihiel salient. It is a blow to the German war effort which will be felt for many years to come."

The *Evening Standard* says: "The American drive against the St. Mihiel salient is a masterpiece of military strategy. It is a blow to the German war effort which will be felt for many years to come."

The *Manchester Guardian* says: "The American drive against the St. Mihiel salient is a masterpiece of military strategy. It is a blow to the German war effort which will be felt for many years to come."

The *London Times* says: "The American drive against the St. Mihiel salient is a masterpiece of military strategy. It is a blow to the German war effort which will be felt for many years to come."

The *New York Times* says: "The American drive against the St. Mihiel salient is a masterpiece of military strategy. It is a blow to the German war effort which will be felt for many years to come."

The *Washington Post* says: "The American drive against the St. Mihiel salient is a masterpiece of military strategy. It is a blow to the German war effort which will be felt for many years to come."

The *Chicago Tribune* says: "The American drive against the St. Mihiel salient is a masterpiece of military strategy. It is a blow to the German war effort which will be felt for many years to come."

The *San Francisco Chronicle* says: "The American drive against the St. Mihiel salient is a masterpiece of military strategy. It is a blow to the German war effort which will be felt for many years to come."

The *Los Angeles Times* says: "The American drive against the St. Mihiel salient is a masterpiece of military strategy. It is a blow to the German war effort which will be felt for many years to come."

The *Portland Oregonian* says: "The American drive against the St. Mihiel salient is a masterpiece of military strategy. It is a blow to the German war effort which will be felt for many years to come."

The *Seattle Times* says: "The American drive against the St. Mihiel salient is a masterpiece of military strategy. It is a blow to the German war effort which will be felt for many years to come."

The *Spokane Falls Chronicle* says: "The American drive against the St. Mihiel salient is a masterpiece of military strategy. It is a blow to the German war effort which will be felt for many years to come."

The *Butte Herald* says: "The American drive against the St. Mihiel salient is a masterpiece of military strategy. It is a blow to the German war effort which will be felt for many years to come."

The *Helena Daily Leader* says: "The American drive against the St. Mihiel salient is a masterpiece of military strategy. It is a blow to the German war effort which will be felt for many years to come."

The *Great Falls Tribune* says: "The American drive against the St. Mihiel salient is a masterpiece of military strategy. It is a blow to the German war effort which will be felt for many years to come."

The *Bozeman Daily Chronicle* says: "The American drive against the St. Mihiel salient is a masterpiece of military strategy. It is a blow to the German war effort which will be felt for many years to come."

The *Billings Gazette* says: "The American drive against the St. Mihiel salient is a masterpiece of military strategy. It is a blow to the German war effort which will be felt for many years to come."

The *Butte Daily Star* says: "The American drive against the St. Mihiel salient is a masterpiece of military strategy. It is a blow to the German war effort which will be felt for many years to come."

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